

JOE CASSIDY KICKED OUT AS THE BOSS OF QUEENS; CONNOLLY IS REAL RULER

In Swan Song Former Dictator Urges "Harmony With the Borough President."

DUJAT NEW CHAIRMAN.

Not a Voice Raised for Joe in Committee, Though Several Dodge Vote.

Joe C. Cassidy's star has fallen from the clouded zenith of Queens County politics and the general belief of borough astuteness is that it will never be seen again. Deposed from the chairmanship of the County Committee, shorn of his patronage, with men who were once and not long ago his ardent followers turning their thumbs down against him, Cassidy met his finish as a broken spirited man. The final blow came in the citadel from which he had ruled so long, the Democratic Club in Long Island City, across the way from the court house.

It was there last night that Cassidy saw his successor elected. Like many a man who voted to turn Cassidy out, this successor was one who had once been in the train of the Queens County Boss. Cassidy had taken him from a blacksmith shop and placed him in an Aldermanic chair. He it was with something like a creak in his voice that Cassidy, seeing the odds hopelessly against him, asked that the election of Alexander Dujat to the chairmanship be made unanimous.

There were probably a good many memories and visions that came to Joe Cassidy's mind last night in the smoke filled hall on the second floor of the Democratic Club. One thing he may have looked back upon was his victory at the primaries last September, which seemed to preface his re-election to the Borough Presidency. Then he saw this prize wrested from him by Maurice E. Connolly. After that came his attempt to negotiate with Connolly, which was met with an open declaration of war. Then there were all the dark charges and insinuations that grew out of the nomination of William Willest Jr. for Justice of the Supreme Court.

END OF "VILLAGE POLITICS," IT IS PREDICTED.

As for prophetic visions, Cassidy probably saw the laying of the foundation of a new organization on the wreck of the machine he had built and run. In the construction of this new political edifice he could have seen the guiding hand of Borough President Connolly. He may also have seen the long delayed results of the business men's movement which has had for its object the taking out of the hands of professional politicians the county and borough that had been their prey for so long. Over in Queens they will tell you that the turning down of Cassidy is the effect of the revolt of business interests. The whole section is looking for a boom, and when it comes they say that it will not be for the sole profit of the political rings.

The passing of Cassidy, observers across the river say, marks, too, the end of village politics as played before the consolidation of the greater city and carried into the new civic conditions by men who belonged to the old regime. Cassidy, they declare, is the last of them. Now they look to Connolly. There seems to be no question that the Borough President will be the power in the revamped Democratic organization. But he does not wish to appear as a boss. The two jobs are incompatible. He could have had the chairmanship of the County Committee long ago if he wished it, but he refused. He has two years yet to serve as Borough President and the eyes of all are on him. If his administration is a good one—and his friends say he has started off well—he may find himself at the head of a strong organization of his own at the end of his term. In his brief speech last night Cassidy said the best results for the party could be obtained "by working in harmony with Borough President Connolly."

OBSEQUES BRING MIXED CROWD TO CLUB.

It was the usual variegated crowd of Queens County politicians that turned out for the Cassidy obsequies. There



are forty-five members of the County Committee and of these thirty-six were present. One man who knows his Queens pretty well said that they were against Cassidy to a man. There were other members who did not come, who were also opposed to him, it is said, but did not wish to face an open vote. But the committeemen were only a small part of the throng that crowded the rooms and halls and stairways of the club house and eddied out into the street and down to the corner saloon. In the club house the sign "Bar in the Rear," seemed an unnecessary direction. The cohorts crowded in until they had the gray haired bartender looking like a whirling dervish.

The dyed-in-the-wool Cassidyites, non-members of the committee, were loud in their protestations of loyalty to the leader who was soon to be "tried out" and not too chaotic in their expressions of contempt for those who were against him. Before the meeting Cassidy stood in his little office at the head of the stairway on the second floor, his manner plainly indicative of what he felt was to come. The handshaking went on, but there was none of the adulation the Boss had received on former occasions.

Then came the meeting. Cassidy as chairman called it to order and suggested that Bernard Suydam be temporary chairman. His advice was followed and Cassidy took a seat well up in front and near Surrogate Daniel Noble, though there seemed to be an iceberg between the two.

It was Noble, more than any one else, who brought the Supreme Court nomination to Queens. He had expected the nomination, himself, but Cassidy, with whom Noble had stood firmly for years,

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decided it should go to some one else. Another memory for Cassidy.

CASSIDY MOVES TO MAKE IT UNANIMOUS

The temporary chairman had hardly delivered himself of his "thanks for the honor," when Alderman Edward Brady of Far Rockaway was on his feet nominating Alexander Dujat, who lives in Corona, for chairman of the County Committee. Alderman from each ward seconded the nomination. Hardly any one looked at Cassidy as he rose. The boss, whose grip was being wrenched from his own machine, sat with his chin buried deep in his collar. He did not bat an eye as he heard a man after whom he had once counted on as a devoted follower lift his voice against him.

Then came the time for the vote, but before it was put Cassidy rose, threw out his chest and shook his head until his curly locks seemed to flutter. He saw the end coming, but he did not want to take the count. So he tried to save his face and make the best of his defeat.

It was his swan song: "Gentlemen, as chairman of this committee I have fought beside you for six years. My interests have been your interests and the best interests of the Democratic party. The new Borough President has announced that if some one is selected as chairman acceptable to him he will see to it that the patronage of his office is given to this committee."

"I think at this time it is my duty to the men who have stood by me in all my fights to agree to anything that will tend to bring about harmony and the ultimate success of the party. I believe this can be done by working in harmony with Borough President Connolly. I, therefore, move that the nomination of Alderman Dujat be made by acclamation."

It was all over then, excepting that the committee took time to elect John P. Powers of Far Rockaway secretary. The deposed boss may have taken some consolation out of this. For Powers was his Mr. Reinhold of Buildings when he was Borough President. A committee was also named to draw up a new set of bylaws. This will probably be an executive committee which will have much to do with directing the affairs of the organization.

The final announcement was an ominous one for Cassidy. It was that the next meeting of the committee would be held at the North Side Democratic Club at Corona. It was known as Borough President Connolly's club.

GREW RICH WHILE PRESIDENT OF BOROUGH.

A good many members dropped into the little office to say "Good night, Joe," and then went on their way. More of the committeemen and others crowded around Dujat. Of these, many had their hands out already for favors. "I can't say anything about what may be done by the committee," said the newly elected chairman. "I am new on the job."

It is not believed that Dujat's appointment is anything more than temporary. Cassidy received his first political job,

though of Cassidy's Committee men as a player, of \$1000 a year, back in the eighties. Then he was nominated for Alderman, and when asked to resign the Committee manship replied "Wait until after the election." After election he held on to both jobs, and the matter was taken to the courts, where Cassidy won. This incident is typical of the man. When consolidation came Joseph Reed and was leader of the Second Ward. Cassidy formed an alliance with him and was elected Borough President. He appointed Bernard Commissioner of Public Works, an office that carried a lot of patronage in the way of contracts. Cassidy began to get rich. He was a constant visitor at the race tracks, and to get \$1000 on a race was common with him. Poor when he became Borough President, his salary \$3000 a year and "judicious investments" in real estate brought him to the \$200,000 mark before the end of his term.

TORN POOL TABLE MAY COST LIFE OF PLAYER.

John Huber Is Shot When He Refuses to Pay for Damage to Cloth.

John Huber, twenty-six years old, of No. 708 Columbus avenue, and Anton Vengler of No. 216 East Seventy-third street were playing pool in the rear of Stephen Rechner's saloon this morning. In the course of the game the cloth of the pool table was torn, and when Huber came to settle up, Mrs. Rechner, who was looking after the place while her husband slept, demanded he pay for the done. This Huber refused to do and then started for the door. Mrs. Rechner grabbed Huber and be-

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man, who was a player, tried to fight him off, and finally caught her by the throat. Her cries aroused her husband, who rushed downstairs with a revolver. Fearing his wife's life was in peril he fired. Huber dropped, and in the confusion, a boy called Policeman Thomas P. Ryan, who arrested Rechner. The wounded man was sent to the Flower Hospital and Ryan took Mrs. Rechner and went away as a witness.

Tupper May Recover. LONDON, Dec. 20.—The physician in charge of Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., formerly Prime Minister of the Dominion of Canada, and at one time High Commissioner for Canada in London, reports that there is a further improvement in his condition. There are now distinct hopes of his recovery.

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\$15.00 Black Fox	\$30.00
\$10.00 Natural Raccoon	\$15.00
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